GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:508
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
VACANT POSTS OF JUDGES
Ponnuswamy Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges lying vacant in various High Courts in the country as on date, court-wise;

(b) the reasons for not filling up of vacant posts so far; and

(c) the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a): A Statement showing the vacancy position, High Court wise, is enclosed.

(b) & (c) : Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among the constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep arising on account of retirements, resignation or elevation of Judges.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges of a High Court lies with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has, however, been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts, Chief Ministers and the Governors of the States, from time to time, to initiate proposals for filling up of the present and anticipated vacancies during the next six months.